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ELT 302 Teaching English to Young Learners

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Assessment for Unit 2 'My Family'

It is crucial to state that, there is no such a thing for assessing students. Teacher can only assesses him/herself through students. The reason for that is, the amount of knowledge that students carry for a specific subject, depends on the ability of the teacher. In other words, it depends on how well the teacher delivers the information and to make it accessible to the processing for the students. Thus, assessments should be mostly formative assessments so that teacher can see and plan what to teach next or what to emphasize more or what to revise again. Given that point of view, I have to go on with the assessment which I think that teacher can plan for himself.

For unit 2, My Family, it is not logical to prepare summative assessment because it is just the second unit of the book. It is very early to prepare a test or any kind of exam for the students. For this unit, students are expected to describe characters and people, making simple inquiries, and also students are expected to be able to talk about possession. Throughout the unit, there are different activities. That's why; I think that the first assessment for the teacher him/herself is to observe each student closely about how well they are doing in those activities. Do they complete the given task? Do you see them trying to cheat from eachother? Do you see them looking to your eyes with emptiness? Are they willing to raise hand and join the activities? I think the first assessment should be the attitudes of the students. I think that, if students do not understand the topic, they would easily lose their attention and start speaking. Or they would just sit silently and will try to avoid the teacher in all coasts. That's where a teacher should change the way he asks

the question, that is the point which a teacher should change the way s/he teaches, or that's the part which a teacher revise the topic over and over again.

Another assessment I think of for this unit is self-assessment. Self-assessment is really important of language learning process as it promotes the learner autonomy. In the long run, it gives students the responsibility of their own so that they can involve more into learning language. That's why, at the end of the unit, I would provide each student with a sheet that contains the targeted vocabulary items and language structures and at the end of the sheet, I would give 3 different statements and put 3 empty stars to fill like;

I can describe my family members ☆☆☆

I can talk about relationship of my family members ☆☆☆

I can introduce my family members in photo ☆☆☆

And by that let them give themselves as a star.

As I mentioned above, teacher is responsible for the teaching part, however it does not mean that students are only there to sit, watch, or listen to. Students should put effort to learn. Thus, one of the assessments should be about the effort of the students. The best way to see that is to give homework. For me, it does not matter if the student is not producing anything during the classroom. Main thing I consider is that how much effort is s/he putting into the learning the language. Homework is one of the most compelling evidence of the effort.

Lastly, assessments cannot only be about measuring the knowledge about the topic. No matter you are an English language teacher or Mathematics teacher, you should also assess, measure your students for the moral attitudes they posses. Thus, teacher is not responsible only to teach about the bookish knowledge but also the ethic, moral, virtue too. Because teacher and education system measured people only with their theoric skills and success of lesson, we have many problematic people in high positions. After all, the behaviors of students should be counted as an assessment and teachers should take precaution accordingly.

All in all, assessment is an ongoing process. Not one but too many aspects of measurements should be considered and teachers should modify his/her teaching style or

behavior according to that. With the assessments teacher do, family members and other teachers can be informed and if there is a need for reinforcement or any kind of help, it can be consult to them.